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Reports from Rio de Janeiro—Smallpox—Recrudescence of plague—Summary of work of the health department for the month of August, 1904—Plague and smallpox in Bahia.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Stewart reports, September 28 and October 5, as follows:

During the week ended September 24, the following vessels were inspected and issued bills of health from this office: On the 23d instant the American bark *Amy*, for Baltimore, with a cargo of coffee, no passengers; 2 new members of the crew shipped here; all members of crew requiring vaccination were vaccinated before departure, and the captain was furnished with a supply of vaccine in case it should be needed during the voyage. On the 24th instant the British steamship *Thespis*, for New York, with a cargo of coffee, 1 new member of the crew taken on here, 5 first-class and 4 steerage passengers from this port, and having had no members of the crew, except the captain and the new man taken on at this port, ashore in this port. All steerage passengers examined by me in this office before purchasing tickets.

These were the only vessels leaving this port for the United States during the week under consideration.

The only information of a sanitary character from Bahia during the week was a statement that on the 22d of this month there were 22 cases of bubonic plague under treatment at the hospital, and that up to the 15th of the month there had been 221 deaths in the city, of which number 9 were due to plague, 2 to suspected cases of plague, 2 to variola, 19 to beriberi, and the same number to tuberculosis.

Mortality report of Rio de Janeiro, week ended September 25, 1904.

There were in all during the week 391 deaths. Of this number none was caused by yellow fever, although there were two new cases of this disease, both of which were taken to São Sebastião Hospital, making a total of 3 cases under treatment in this hospital at the close of the week. There were 25 new cases of plague, with 12 deaths, and a total, at the end of the week, of 51 cases under treatment at Hospital Paulo Candido. This recrudescence is most unfortunate, and as yet I do not see to what determining cause it can be traced.

Variola caused 115 deaths, with a total of 346 new cases, at the close of the week there being 358 cases of smallpox in Hospital São Sebastião and some few cases in temporary hospitals, the disease having outrun the capacity of São Sebastião.

Two deaths were caused by measles, 4 by whooping cough, 13 by gripe, 2 by enteric fever, 1 by dysentery, 2 by beriberi, 1 by leprosy, 7 by malarial fevers, and 45 by tuberculosis. There were no deaths from scarlet fever or diphtheria.

The deaths were divided as follows: Males 243, females 148. Natives 320, foreigners 71. Less than 1 year of age, 66; more than 1 and up to 5 years, 54; 5 to 10, 28; 10 to 20, 41; 20 to 30, 60; 30 to 40, 37; 40 to 50, 35; 50 to 60, 28; more than 60 years of age, 42.

By localities as follows: In homes, hotels, etc., 246; in civil hospitals, 79; in military hospitals, 7; in Santa Casa da Misericórdia, 51; in asylums, convents, etc., 5; in vessels in port, none, and in localities unknown, 3.

The daily average of deaths was 55.85, in comparison with 53 for the preceding week and with 49.57 for the corresponding week last year.

This number of deaths would give a yearly coefficient of 24.04 for 1,000 of the population reckoned at the estimated figures of 850,000.

The highest range of the thermometer was on the 25th instant, 29.5° C., and the lowest on the same day, 18.1° C., with an average for the week of 21.88° C.

The rainfall for the week amounted to 11.75 mm., a daily average of 4.94 mm.

During the week ended October 1, 1904, the following vessels were inspected and issued bills of health from this office:

On the 26th ultimo the British steamship *Soldier Prince*, for New York, with a cargo of coffee, no passengers, and no change in the personnel of crew here, and with no one ashore except the captain; on the same date the British steamship *Strabo*, for New York, with coffee, no passengers, and no change in the crew lists here, and no one ashore except the captain; on the 27th ultimo the American barkentine *Glad Tidings*, for Baltimore, with coffee, no passengers, and 3 men taken on the crew here; all vaccinated before leaving and a supply of vaccine given to the captain; on the same date the American barkentine *Julia Rollins*, with coffee, for Baltimore, with no passengers and 2 new men taken on crew here, and same precautions observed as in respect to the *Glad Tidings*; on the 29th ultimo the British steamship *Bellagio*, for New York, with a cargo of coffee, no member of the crew taken on here, and no passengers, and no one ashore except the captain, and on the same date the British steamship *Hazelwood*, for New York, with coffee, no passengers, no one ashore except captain, and no change in the personnel of crew.

No other vessels left this port for United States or Cuban ports during the week under consideration.

In regard to the plague in Bahia, the conditions remain about the same. The latest dispatches received state that during the month of September there were 28 suspected cases of plague in Bahia, and of this number 18 were confirmed by bacteriological examination. Of this number but 3 cases had a fatal termination.

In regard to variola in Bahia, the following are the figures for the month of September: At the beginning of the month there were 28 cases under treatment in the smallpox hospital, 66 cases entered during the month, 45 were discharged as cured, 4 died, and 45 cases remained in the hospital at the close of the month.

Mortality report of Rio de Janeiro, week ended October 2, 1904.

The figures for smallpox are a trifle lower than of late, but, on the other hand, bubonic plague has apparently taken a new lease of life and the figures are increasing every week.

There were in all during the week 434 deaths. Of this number none was caused by yellow fever, of which disease there were no new cases and but 1 old case remaining in the hospital, none from scarlet fever, diphtheria, or croup, choleraic diseases of children, or leprosy. Variola caused 132 deaths with 309 new cases reported, leaving at the close of the week 346 cases under treatment. Bubonic plague caused 12 deaths, the same number as last week, with 31 new cases, an increase of 6 over the preceding week. At the close of the week there were 60 cases under treatment at Paulo Candido Hospital.